IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claim 1 (Currently amended): A process for <u>communication between subscriber stations via a packet switching network, said process comprising</u>

evaluating deterministic behavior of ~~a~~ <u>the</u> packet switching network ~~including subscriber stations connected to each other through at least one switch~~, the behavior <u>being</u> defined as deterministic if any packet sent on the network from a source subscriber station reaches ~~the~~ <u>a</u> destination subscriber ~~station(s)~~ <u>station</u> within a duration that is limited in time, ~~the process~~ <u>said evaluating</u> comprising:

<u>determining a max latency value, the max latency value being a maximum residence time in an output buffer of a switch,</u>

<u>determining a BAGi value, the BAGi value being a minimum time between two consecutive frames belonging to a virtual link i, before they are transmitted,</u>

<u>determining a (Jitter In)i value, wherein the (Jitter In)i is jitter associated with a virtual link i that represents a time interval between a theoretical instant at which a frame is transmitted, and its effective transmission that may be before or after the theoretical instant,</u>

<u>determining a (max frame duration) i value, the (max frame duration) i value being a duration of a longest frame on the virtual link i, and</u>

determining for each output port from each switch on the network if the following relation is satisfied:

i number of virtual links passing through the buffer

$$\left[1 + \mathrm{int}\left(\frac{(\mathrm{Jitter\ In})_i\, i + \mathrm{max\ Latency}}{\mathrm{BAGi}} \right) \right] *$$

(max frame duration) $\leq$ latency

~~in which:~~

~~the max latency value is a maximum residence time in an output buffer of a switch, this value may be different for each switch in the network,~~

~~BAGi is a minimum time between two consecutive frames belonging to a virtual link i, before they are transmitted,~~

~~(Jitter In)i is Jitter associated with a virtual link i that represents a time interval between a theoretical instant at which a frame is transmitted, and its effective transmission that may be before or after the theoretical instant, and~~

~~(max frame duration) i is a duration of a longest frame on the virtual link i.~~

Claim 2 (Currently Amended): A process according to claim 1, ~~in which~~ further comprising adding the virtual links ~~are added~~ one by one, and the determining of each output port is performed after each addition of a virtual link.

Claim 3 (Original): A process according to claim 1, wherein the packet switching network is located on an aircraft.

Claim 4 (Original): A process according to claim 3, wherein the packet switching network includes a first switch connected to a first graphic screen and a second graphic screen.

Claim 5 (Original): A process according to claim 4, wherein the packet switching network includes a second switch connected to a flight parameters generator and an aircraft maintenance computer.

Claim 6 (Original): A process according to claim 5, wherein the first graphic screen displays flight parameters and the second graphic screen displays flight and maintenance parameters.

Claim 7 (Currently amended): A system for communication between subscriber stations via a packet switching network, said system comprising

evaluating deterministic behavior of ~~a~~ the packet switching network ~~including subscriber stations connected to each other through at least one switch~~, the behavior being defined as deterministic if any packet sent on the network from a source subscriber station reaches ~~the~~ a destination subscriber ~~station(s)~~ station within a duration that is limited in time, the system comprising:

a control to determine for each output port from each switch on the network if the following relation is satisfied:

i number of virtual links passing through the buffer

$$\left[1 + \text{int}\left(\frac{(\text{Jitter In})_i \, i + \text{max Latency}}{\text{BAGi}} \right) \right] *$$

$$(\text{max frame duration}) \leq \text{latency}$$

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in which:

the max latency value is a maximum residence time in an output buffer of a switch, ~~this value may be different for each switch in the network,~~

BAGi is a minimum time between two consecutive frames belonging to a virtual link i, before they are transmitted,

(Jitter In)i is ~~Jitter~~ jitter associated with a virtual link i that represents a time interval between a theoretical instant at which a frame is transmitted, and its effective transmission that may be before or after the theoretical instant, and

(max frame duration) i is a duration of a longest frame on the virtual link i.

Claim 8 (Original): A system according to claim 7, in which the virtual links are added one by one, and the determining is performed after each addition of a virtual link.

Claim 9 (Original): A system according to claim 7, wherein the packet switching network is located on an aircraft.

Claim 10 (Original): A system according to claim 9, wherein the packet switching network includes a first switch connected to a first graphic screen and a second graphic screen.

Claim 11 (Original): A system according to claim 10, wherein the packet switching network includes a second switch connected to a flight parameters generator and an aircraft maintenance computer.

Claim 12 (Original): A system according to claim 11, wherein the first graphic screen displays flight parameters and the second graphic screen displays flight and maintenance parameters.

Claim 13 (New): A process according to claim 1, wherein the jitter refers to max jitter.

Claim 14 (New): A process according to claim 1, further comprising the step of aggregating a number of the virtual links without causing any loss of segregation.

Claim 15 (New): A process for communication between subscriber stations via a frame switching network, said process comprising

evaluating deterministic behavior of the packet switching network, the behavior being defined as deterministic if any packet sent on the network from a source subscriber station reaches a destination subscriber station within a duration that is limited in time, said evaluating comprising:

determining a max latency value, the max latency value being a maximum residence time in an output buffer of a switch,

determining a BAGi value, the BAGi value being a minimum time between two consecutive frames belonging to a virtual link i, before they are transmitted,

determining a (Jitter In)i value, wherein the (Jitter In)i is jitter associated with a virtual link i that represents a time interval between a theoretical instant at which a frame is transmitted, and its effective transmission that may be before or after the theoretical instant,

determining a (max frame duration) i value, the (max frame duration) i value being a duration of a longest frame on the virtual link i, and

determining for each output port from each switch on the network if the following relation is satisfied:

$$\text{i number of virtual links passing through the buffer} \left[1 + \text{int}\left(\frac{(\text{Jitter In})_i \, i + \text{max Latency}}{\text{BAGi}} \right) \right] *$$

$$(\text{max frame duration}) \leq \text{latency}$$

Claim 16 (New): A process according to claim 15, further comprising adding the virtual links one by one, and wherein the determining of each output port is performed after each addition of a virtual link.

Claim 17 (New): A process according to claim 15, wherein the packet switching network is located on an aircraft.

Claim 18 (New): A process according to claim 17, wherein the packet switching network includes a first switch connected to a first graphic screen and a second graphic screen.

Claim 19 (New): A process according to claim 18, wherein the packet switching network includes a second switch connected to a flight parameters generator and an aircraft maintenance computer.

Claim 20 (New): A process according to claim 19, wherein the first graphic screen displays flight parameters and the second graphic screen displays flight and maintenance parameters.